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February 15, 2019

## **VIA ELECTRONIC FILING**

Marlene H. Dortch Office of the Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street SW Washington, DC, 20554

## **Re:** NOTICE OF EX-PARTE COMMUNICATION

In the Matter of Reliability and Continuity of Communications Networks, Including Broadband Technologies, PS Docket No. 11-60; Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau seeks Comment on Hurricane Michael Preparation and Response, PS Docket No. 18-339.

## Dear Ms Dortch:

On February 13, Jim Bugel, Ryan Burchnell, Carrie Johnson, Joe Marx, Brian Benison, Christi Shewman and I (all of AT&T), and Ed Parkinson and Paul Madison (of the First Responder Network Authority) met via teleconference with Jeff Goldthorp, Michael Caiafa, Suzon Cameron, Michael Connelly, and Ryan Hedgpeth of the FCC's Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau. This meeting was held at the FCC's request to discuss experiences in restoring communications and supporting public safety subscribers of FirstNet, the Nationwide Public Safety Broadband Network, in the immediate aftermath of Hurricane Michael. No materials were used or distributed during this discussion.

Like the networks of other commercial wireless carriers, networks operated by AT&T experienced significant damage because of Hurricane Michael. However, through close coordination with local emergency management in state and local emergency operations centers, AT&T was able to quickly provide restored FirstNet service to first responders through the mobilization of our specialized network recovery assets and personnel. In addition, because of our all-band strategy for FirstNet subscribers, service was also quickly restored for our commercial customers.

In support of network recovery operations after Hurricane Michael, AT&T accommodated thirty-one FirstNet deployable asset requests in Florida and Georgia from FirstNet subscribers, mutual aid providers, and from other states or federal agencies. Specifically:

- 9 requests were resolved by deploying generators and technicians to fix these problems quickly.
- 22 FirstNet SatCOLTs were deployed to first responders in the affected area.

AT&T also staged the following assets in advance of the storm to help with the recovery efforts:

- 32 COWs (Cell on Wheels) and COLTs (Cell on Light Trucks);
- 7 ECVs (Emergency Communications Vehicles) and ECPs (Emergency Communications Portables); and
- 1 Hazmat and Mobile Command Center.

AT&T's ability to rapidly restore service can be directly attributed to its commitment to the public safety community as demonstrated by the extensive drills we run in preparation for a disaster and extensive pre-staging of assets to provide an expedited response. We deployed assets from both our Network Disaster Recovery team and specific FirstNet-dedicated assets to restore critical service to local first responders, public safety teams from as far away as Oregon and New York, and our commercial customers as rapidly as possible.

Should you have any questions regarding any of the above, please feel free to contact me directly.

Sincerely,

Cc: (via e-mail)

Mr. Jeff Goldthorp, PSHSB

Mr. Michael Caiafa, PSHSB

Ms. Suzon Cameron, PSHSB

Mr. Michael Connelly, PSHSB

Mr. Ryan Hedgpeth, PSHSB